The Shakerite

lake CHARGE

Seniors Emily Blanton and Devan Miller capture Raider of the Year honors.
Sports, page 7

New principal ready to roll up his sleeves

Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Michael Griffith shakes Pam Corbinn's hand May 17 before his initial meeting with faculty.

• Enthusiastic L.A. native will head to Shaker after brief stint in Stow

By Jennifer Broadbent and Anahid Thompson
News Co-editor and Co-editor in chief

A young, personable and highly experienced Michael Griffith is enthusiastically looking forward to assuming the duties of principal.

"I am tremendously happy to be coming to Shaker," said Griffith, who contacted the district in the beginning months of the principal search.

Griffith comes to Shaker from Stow High School, where he worked this year as an assistant principal. The bulk of his experience, however, occurred in his native Los Angeles.

Griffith says he was attracted to Shaker because he liked the diversity of the school, the community's commitment to youth and programs such as SGORR and MAC scholars.

Griffith views himself as a mentor with high expectations for personal growth and reaching one's potential.

Students have the same expectations for the new prinicipal.

"I want somebody who understands you and listens to you before automatically taking the teacher's side," said freshman Krystle Jewett.

"I think my picture of an ideal highschool would be one that incorporates freedom. I think opportunities for choice -- variety of programs -- are important for young adolescents," Griffith said.

When asked about the dress code, Griffith's answer was contingent with policies already enforced in the school.

Griffith's previous experience includes teaching and administrative positions in Los Angeles schools with diverse populations. He has taught math at a parochial high school and has been principal of a public school.

Everybody dance now!

• Navy rock band's efforts at first all-school assembly set kids dancing, doing the wave

By Jenny Heisler
Co-editor in chief

When Horizon, a six-man Navy band, launched Shaker's first all-school assembly two weeks ago by playing Blink 182's "All the Small Things," they caught just about everyone by surprise. However, once the tunes started flowing and students were invited to dance in the middle of the new gym floor, Shaker spirit rose to new heights.

"They really got personal with us," junior Austin Cameron said of the band. "They got all of the students involved. It was the best assembly we have had."

Cameron was one of about 50 students who danced to the medley of songs, which included the Goo Goo Dolls' "Black Balloon" and Smashmouth's "Allstar."

Social studies teacher Chuck Spinner took the initiative last fall when Navy recruiters were visiting Shaker. He asked if any Navy bands would be available to play at Shaker sometime during the year. Spinner's name was put on a waiting list.

"Then I was called a couple of months later and they told me one [band] would be in the area and that they were looking for a school to play at," Spinner said.

The idea was cleared with chair of curriculum William Newby and principal Jerry Mitchell.

"I just thought it would be a great way to create a pleasant environment in academic surroundings," Spinner said.

Students' reactions to the assembly were overwhelmingly positive.

"Sometimes you've got to just take a little break from the school stuff. It was just fun," sophomore Missy Hendricks said.

Hendricks and junior James Sharp danced together to Santana's "Smooth."

"It was very neat how everyone was together, not talking about anybody," senior Marcus Nash said. "I felt free."

During the assembly, members of the band passed out mouse pads and water bottles bearing the Navy emblem and ran up and down the bleacher stairs with microphones. These tactics created an overwhelming spirit within the student body, and compelled students and staff to do the wave.

"It was a good band. Everyone was full of spirit, and we even did the wave," Spinner said.

Many teachers agreed.

"I thought it was very enjoyable, and the music was great for the whole school," English teacher Ellen Kelly said.

The uniqueness of the assembly had a lasting effect on students.

"It was good to see everybody having fun together, the diversity and everything. That's what Shaker stands for," sophomore Dave Hausman said.

Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Horizon sparked students to get up and dance, including junior Sarah Williams.

Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Warm days ignite clothing dispute

• Administration holds firm to enforce dress code

By David Chupek
Staff Reporter

When the days get hotter, the shorts get shorter, the shirts turn sleeveless, and this year the administration is cracking down on enforcing the dress code.

"I believe school to students is a job, and like most jobs they should dress appropriately," said John Addison, junior class principal.

But many students disagree.

Freshman Jessica Herzfeld thinks everyone should be allowed to wear what they choose, regardless of the majority's opinion.

"The human body has been perverted by society and it's limiting our freedom of expression," Herzfeld said.

School rules state that "clothing and accessories must not be a distraction to the educational process." They also say clothing must not create unusual safety and/or health hazards or damage school property.

DRESS CODE GUIDELINE

Student Handbook-Calendar says, "clothing and accessories must not be a distraction to the educational process."

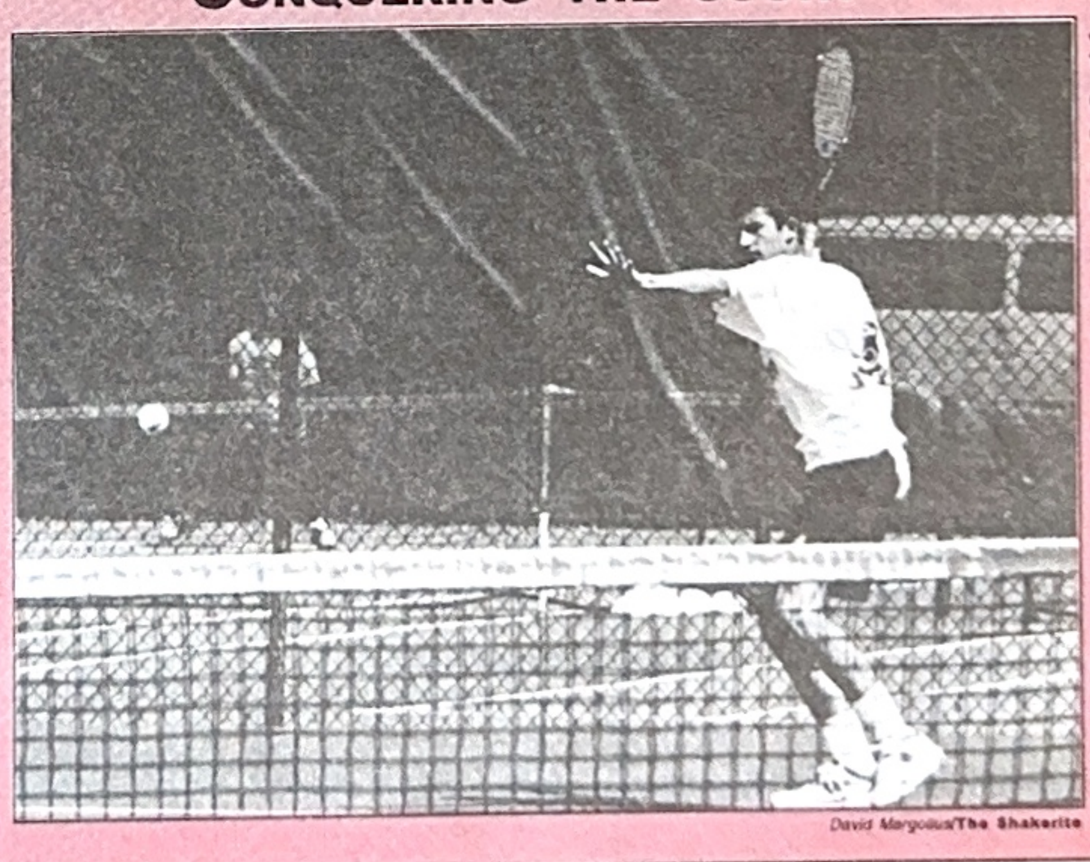
Though Herzfeld wears some potentially objectionable apparel, she said that she doesn't go out of her way to wear distracting clothes; she wears what she likes.

Other students were undecided as to their position on the dress code.

"I think people should wear what they want, but there should be some limit," senior Amy Krivanek said.

SEE CODE, PAGE 2

CONQUERING THE COURT



David Margolius/The Shakerite

Junior Borko Tesic prepares to crush a forehand during a sectional match. At press time, juniors Tesic and Brian Taubman, senior Adam Eklund, and sophomore John Goheen were headed to Columbus for the state tennis tournament. Senior Amit Ranade and sophomores Todd Angney and Matt Smith were district qualifiers. The team's record is 23-1.

Incident prompts consideration of middle school MAC intervention

By Laura Barnes
Staff reporter

As Shaker schools continue to address academic achievement issues at the high school, a recent incident at Shaker Middle School has students and adults contemplating the need for earlier intervention in student attitudes toward learning.

The parents of seventh grader Justin Bibb removed their son from Shaker Middle School and went to local media with allegations of harassment directed at Justin.

According to the *Plain Dealer*, he was punched in the stomach, called a fag for being active in student council, had his schedule book urinated on and his lunch spit on.

Bibb's parents withdrew him when two boys picked him up and dropped him on his head. He was taken to the hospital. The family said that Justin was targeted because he was interested in school related subjects rather than sports.

Woodbury Principal Delores Groves expressed similar concerns to the *Sun Press* where she said, "He was more - how can I say this? - white-like, and some African-American kids were critical of him."

Sophomore Joy Allen acknowledged the problem of peer pressure not to do very well in school and said, "It's really bad for African American guys."

Because of the pressures to underachieve and situations like these, which to many seem to be the most prevalent for African Americans, the Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) was started. Since the start of MAC, a corresponding club for females called MAC Sisters was created.

MAC, led by Mary Lynne McGovern, Baird Wiehe and Hubert McIntyre, was created to try to influence the attitudes of African- American freshmen who are underachieving in school.

Although she hasn't experienced the pressure to underachieve, freshman Sara Barnett said, "I think it is more in younger schools because you don't know what to do yet."

Allen agreed. "It all starts in middle school," she said.

Shaker Middle School Principal Dr. Neil Glazer acknowledged the issue. "We need to focus our energies on promoting scholarship and academics," he said.

In light of this incident, there has been discussion about starting the MAC program in the Middle School.

"I think in some form it would be very beneficial to have the MAC program start earlier," McGovern said. She said that they are still in the process of finding a structure for the program that would be most beneficial to those in the younger grades.

After 30 years at Shaker, Mr. Fox retires

•An expert in the AP arena, Fox leaves his mark

By Rachel Hutt
Copy Editor

Whether it's creating a curriculum, teaching students to write, drafting ACT questions or even ballroom dancing, Steven Fox is knowledgeable and enthusiastic about what he does.

"What a neat guy," said senior Aaron Dibner-Dunlap. "I've never seen somebody so into what he was teaching."

Fox will retire at the end of this year after teaching English at the high school for 30 years.

Although most recently he has been teaching AP Composition, Fox has left his mark on many areas of the high school curriculum.

"I get to do more of what I really enjoy, which is teaching people about how to use the English language effectively," he said of teaching AP Comp.

When asked what other classes he has taught, Fox responded by saying, "It would be easier to tell you what I have not taught."

Fox has become an expert in the AP arena through his involvement with the College Board, writing questions for the ACT, reading AP exams and teaching workshops for aspiring AP teachers. Fox feels that this involvement has provided an invaluable experience for him in his growth as a teacher.

"It's just been unbelievably helpful to me as an AP teacher," he said of reading AP exams. "I can't describe the difference it's made. I tell people when I do my workshops that there is nothing that can substitute for working on the AP test for helping them prepare their own students to do well on it."

Fox has put all of this knowledge to work by imparting it to his students and helping them to become better writers.

"I enjoyed being in the class because he knew what he was talking about and he helped me with my writing," said senior Melissa Currivan.

In addition to teaching various courses here at the high school, Fox has written new curriculums and enhanced old ones.

"I get to do more of what I really enjoy, which is teaching people about how to use the English language effectively."

STEVEN FOX
English teacher

In 1976 Fox co-wrote the curriculum for the American Experience course.

"I think American Experience is one of the best programs this school has to offer," said John Morris, American Experience English teacher. "It gives students the advantage of studying literature in the context of history and vice versa."

Fox also introduced using computers to assist in teaching writing.

One of Fox's most memorable teaching experiences came in the '88-'89 school year, when he taught through an exchange program in England.

"It couldn't have been more different than teaching here at Shaker," he said of his work at the small, rural school of about 230 students.

Fox was forced to use new techniques in teaching, which in turn, made him a more creative teacher upon his return to Shaker.

Fox said retirement will give him more time for the hobby he and his wife, English teacher Carol Fox, picked-up five years ago.

"My wife and I are avid ballroom dancers. I'll look forward to having more time to do that."

Although he will enjoy the relaxation that retirement will bring, Fox will miss those with whom he has worked.

"I work with some wonderful people," he said. "That will be a big gap."

•

The Shakerite learned at deadline that Art teacher Malcolm Brown will retire after 31 years of teaching.

Advanced Placement stats one of five new 2001 courses

Shaker students looking for advanced theater, printmaking, music and statistics classes will not need to search far next year. The high school is offering five new courses in these subject areas.

news BRIEFS

"AP Statistics will use a computer program called Mini-Tab and TI-83 calculators to continuously analyze data," said math department chairwoman Margaret Boles. "It's how to analyze data to see if there are correlations that exist," she said.

AP Statistics will be the high school's twentieth Advanced Placement class.

Also debuting next year will be two classes -- Printmaking, and Mixed Media and Abstraction, to be offered by art teacher Jody Trostler.

"Both courses are designed for the upperclassman who is interested in continuing in the art program," she said.

In addition, Shaker will offer classes in Music Composition and Technology, Theatre III and Shakescenes for the first time.

Joseph Tartakoff

Teens face prom restrictions, background check required

Forty-eight hours before prom, three students at a Boca Raton high school woke up to an ugly surprise: their dates could not go to prom. Not because they had conflicts, but because they had failed police background checks.

Weeks before prom, Spanish River High School seniors had to give administration officials their dates' driver's license numbers, phone numbers, names and employer's name to facilitate the background check.

"That is ridiculous. People should be free to take who they want to prom. It's not like they're going to take a convict with them," said Shaker senior Jennifer Haky.

Senior Lily Kirbo agreed.

"I don't think it's a good idea, because something you did in the past doesn't mean who you are in the present," she said.

Joseph Tartakoff

CODE
FROM PAGE 1

Addison's policy on dealing with infractions of the dress code varies depending on the degree of the violation. If the clothing is in direct contradiction of the policy, he will ask the student to change, either by borrowing one of the extra shirts Addison keeps in his office, or by year.

If the article of clothing is less severe he will simply request that student refrains from wearing it to school again.

History teacher Daniel Parker agrees with Addison on the importance of the dress code. He sees it as useful in reinforcing the idea that school is a serious place.

If the clothing is particularly outrageous Parker will send the student to the office, however usually he doesn't interfere with more than a gentle reminder.

Mary O'Connell/ The Shakerite
This student is an example of a dress code violation.

"I get so interested in teaching I don't notice what my students wear," said Parker.

In the meantime students are waiting to see how the new administration will handle this issue in the coming year.

Corrections

- Ruth Hirshman's name was misspelled in the May issue of *The Shakerite*.
- Evelyn Wisham was misquoted in the May issue of *The Shakerite*.

The Shakerite regrets the errors.

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The Shakerite
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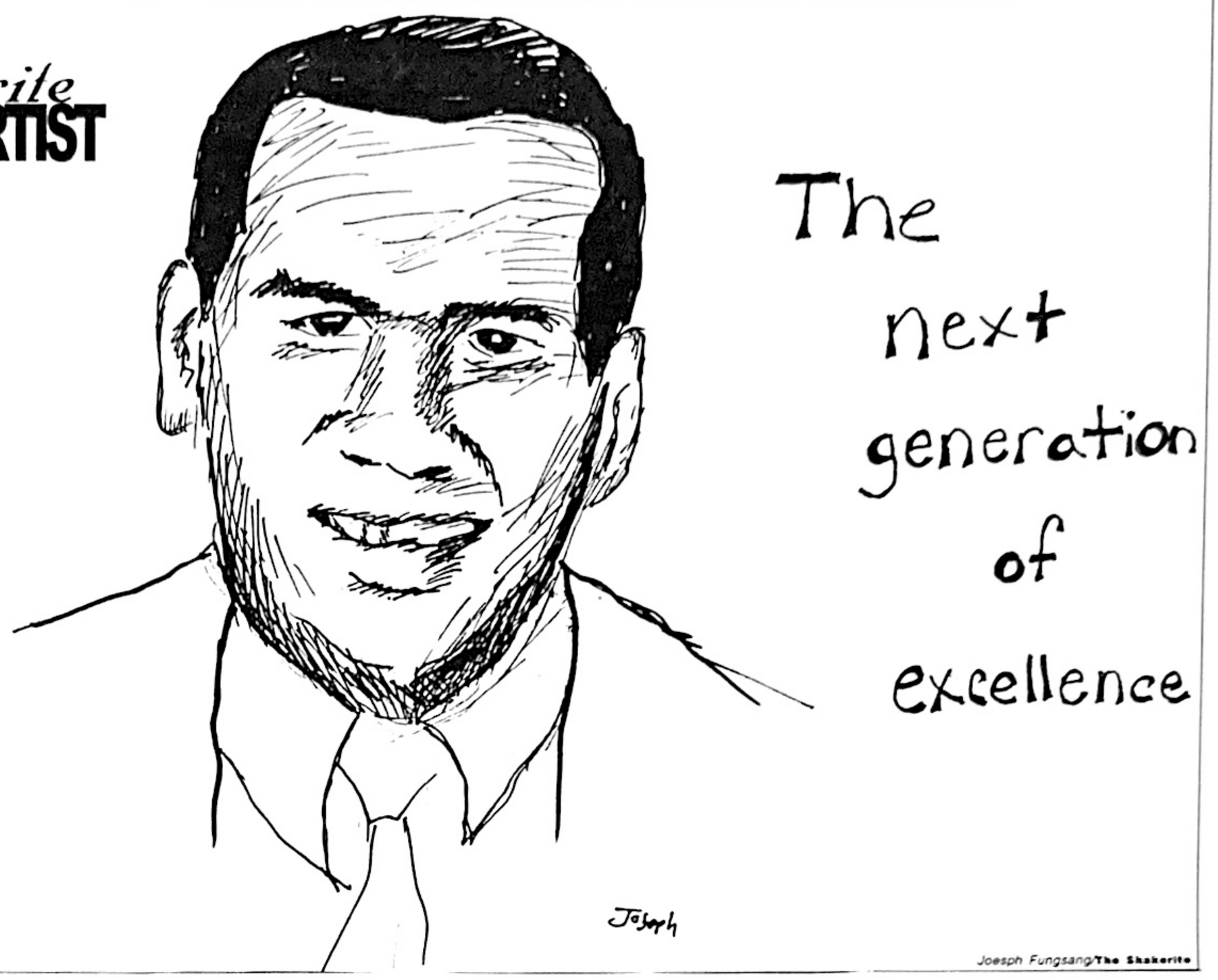


Joesph Fungsang/The Shakerite

You've got mail, Mr. Griffith

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Congratulations on being named new principal of Shaker Heights High School. We are sure that this is a great honor for you; Shaker has a special reputation and tradition for excellence. As students we would like to welcome you to our school and offer a few words of advice.

'rite IDEA

First off, realize that Jack Rumbaugh left a legacy that Jerry Mitchell has admirably sustained. Rumbaugh recognized students by their names and not just their ID numbers. Mitchell stayed with his senior class while serving as principal. As an experienced educator, you too know the impact you can have on a student simply by knowing his or her name.

No one expects you to be Dr. Rumbaugh, but we will not allow you to be any less of a leader then he was. This is the Shaker standard.

Secondly, if you don't love Shaker, how can we? Nothing makes the school community stronger than seeing the red and white donned by its proud leader. Participate in spirit days. Know the fight song. Go to pep rallies and lead the faculty in cheers. Be a Raider.

As a leader, you are also expected to be dynamic. You set the trend and tone for this building and all the diverse people and events that energize it each day. Smile a lot, and forever be encouraging. We certainly expect you to push for excellence, but even more so, don't ever expect less than the best. Many students will pass by your office, each with different needs, concerns and grade point averages. Do not label us. Too often divisions are drawn between the students who do well and those who just barely get by. Remove these barriers and establish equal expectations for us all — expectations of only the best.

While it may be intimidating to accept leadership of a school that has run smoothly on its own for the last year, we are confident of a comfortable transition. We do have our own rhythm and way of doing things, but we also embrace change. You can leave your mark, but don't drastically alter the traditions and philosophy of Shaker as a result. Work with the students, not against them or above them. We're all in it together.

Most importantly, be an administrator whose door is always open and who can be approached about topics both big and small. Visit classes even when you're not required to evaluate the teacher, and go to the theater, music and sports events that occur after the 2:58 bell. Read *The Shakerite*, *Gristmill* and *Semanteme* from cover to cover, and if you don't know what's going on in the school, ask. We're just as eager to answer your questions as we hope you are to answer ours.

See you next fall.

the TOP 10

Reasons *Beverly Hills 90210* went off the air

10 Shannon Doherty purchased Fox

9. Once you hit 40, it's all downhill

8. Tori Spelling.

7. Tori Spelling. That's right. She's worth two reasons.

6. Jason Priestley was to debut next season as "Jasmine."

5. Nobody really believed that after 10 years they are just getting out of college.

4. Changes in the zip code would make Beverly Hills 90210 into Beverly hills 91238 and 94312.

3. Rupert Murdoch watched an episode in its entirety.

2. Is that show still on?

And the #1 reason *Beverly Hills 90210* went off the air is . . .

1. Wait . . . where's Heather Locklear?

10 second TICK-OFF

Navy assembly a huge hit

The Navy rock 'n' roll assembly of a few weeks ago had all the positives of a concert without any of the negatives. Students all crammed into the new gymnasium for the first time and were treated to covers of songs by Santana, Smash Mouth and Kiss. Not to be outdone, the students put on a display of their own, showcasing their dance talents and performing the wave. Kudos to the Navy and the students; together they put on a great show.

Rob Rains

Pranks by 00 bring woe

Each year seniors complain that restrictions concerning senior prank week get tighter, yet each year the pranks themselves seem to grow more disgusting. Antics such as placing dead goldfish on the stairwells, egging cars and snapping off car antennas do nothing for the school except to cause damage and give the seniors a bad name. The class of 2000, thanks to their sophomoric antics, has diminished its reputation and made life harder for future seniors.

Debra Kamin

GRADUATION GALORE!

Let the good times roll

By Lia Silver
Centerpiece Co-editor

If tons of people packed together watching students walk across a stage for hours doesn't sound like your idea of fun — then being a spectator at graduation probably isn't your thing. Yet each year, about 3,000 people do attend graduation, making it the biggest event for Shaker Heights High School.

So why do people put themselves through such torment? Why do people brave the always humid, often rainy commencement day?

Many students go to see their siblings graduate.

"My favorite part was seeing my brother graduate," said junior Katie Wamsley.

Sophomore Mariah Jemberg-Briggs agreed. "It was boring. The best part was when my sister got called up," she said. "We also got free rain ponchos."

It seems as though spectators often are in need of rain protection during graduation. In 1997, 1998 and 1999, there was either a threat of rain, or the skies actually opened and rain poured down.

Emily Tetzlaff, a member of the A Cappella Choir, remembers graduation for the class of '99. "[The choir] was going to sing at the end of it, but it got rained out," Tetzlaff, a junior, said.

Although graduation may not always be filled with sunshine or excitement, it is a huge turning point in the lives of the graduating classes and an important event for them to share with their family and friends.

"Graduation is a celebration, a sharing of the joy," said John Addison, junior class unit principal. "It is an opportunity to show encouragement and appreciation to your loved ones."

From elephants to hay wagons

A peek at graduation traditions from around the world

At high schools in Denmark, each homeroom class hires a farmer and a hay wagon after graduation to take the students to each of their houses, where each student is treated to a beer or a pop.

At Ilion High School in Ilion, New York, students spend the Thursday night before graduation painting walls, sidewalks, roads and driveways around town.

At Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, seniors go on an Elephant Walk after the last football game of the season. The students walk around campus visiting landmarks like elephants who walk around the jungle looking for a final resting place when they're ready to die.

At Deerfield High School in Deerfield, Illinois there is a wall in the senior cafeteria where the seniors write their names and leave their hand prints in different colors. On the wall is a poem about a brick wall and how each brick is important to the wall and each senior is important to the senior class.

At the First College, part of Cleveland State University, each graduating student's family bakes a dish for graduation that represents their ethnic background.

-Compiled by Rebecca Wolff from Internet sources and phone interviews

To cheer or not to cheer? That is the question

"I think they should be allowed to do whatever they want. It's more fun for the kid that way — to hear his family clapping for him."
-Loren Anthes, freshman

"They should clap quietly after each name is called. After everyone has been called, people should get really pumped about graduation."
-Shante Scruggs, junior

"It would be ideal if the audience was respectful and cheered for everyone equally, but that's not always going to happen, and there's not a lot we can, or should, do about it."
-Gordon Scott, senior

"I think you should be able to clap for each person's accomplishments."
-Nikki Haag, junior

" Graduation is a celebration. If people want to hoot and holler, that's their business. They might make fools of themselves in the meantime, but I think they should be able to do it."
- Jon Malangoni, senior

Emily Phillips/The Shakerite

And this is how we say goodbye...

By Julie Redline
Centerpiece Co-editor

"Good morning class of [insert graduation year here]!"

When this opener is followed by phrases such as "we've come so far together" or "we are headed for ...," then you know what time it is. It is time for annual high school commencement speeches.

In the past few years there has been increased media attention to such speeches. There are many books on the topic, including the popular *Wear Sunscreen*. This is a collection of advice that was allegedly presented as a commencement speech to the MIT class of 1997.

This list of advice for life was even made into a popular song.

The Internet site speeches.com even offers, for a fee, to write your speech for you. The speaker must provide the site with information on the general issues and ideas. Within a few days the site promises to produce a full-length commencement script.

With websites and books galore on how to write the perfect graduation speech, it should be a cinch, right? Not necessarily.

These speeches, depending upon the institution, can be delivered by school administrators, well-known alumni and most importantly, by the graduating students.

On June 8, 2000, the Shaker Heights High School commencement ceremony will include student speeches by Jonathan Slain, a leading student, Tara Grove, the class of 2000 president, and Justin Gurney, student council president.

As a trio, they plan to split up their speeches between past, present and future. Despite all of the stress and hype over commencement speeches, each student is only given a two to three minute time slot for the speech.

Grove plans to focus her speech on the past. "I'm going to focus on how far we've come, accomplishments we've made and wishing good luck for the future," Grove said.

Slain is choosing to look forward into the future in his commencement address. "The theme of my speech is how each of us can make a difference in a world of six zillion people," Slain said.

Although well-planned and inspiring, commencement speeches have gained a bad reputation for being predictable and boring. Ted Koppel addressed this problem at the beginning of his 1994 commencement speech at Tufts University. "I know that there are several of you here this morning . . . that the only thought making the transition from one synapse of your brain to another is 'let it be over with soon, please.'"

Grove has run into this potential problem in writing her speech as well. "Graduation speeches are typical," she said. "A lot of the same stuff is always said, so I want to make it interesting."

Although Slain acknowledges that speeches of this sort can become boring, he is not worried. "I think traditional is good sometimes," Slain said.

"The biggest difficulty that I've found is appealing to all of your audience."

Just kickin' it – with a hackysack

• An old-school activity requiring pedestrian dexterity redefines the bean bag once again

By Meryl Kramer
A&E Co-editor

An old school game has reappeared at Shaker Heights High School.

After a couple years of hibernation, the dust has been brushed from these fist-sized footbags and the hackysack has been resurrected. Whether it be before or after school, in or out of classrooms, indoors or outdoors, hackysacks have made a comeback.

At Shaker, hackysacking is all fun and games. Players (mostly boys, it seems) huddle around, trying to get as many kicks as possible. They throw in a little leg dexterity (circling the bag with the foot), delays (catching the bag) and cross body moves. This is similar to freestyling, the artistic form of the sport judged professionally according to choreography, difficulty, variety and execution.

Since the 1970s hackysacking has been a competitive sport called Footbag Net, mainly played in North America, but becoming more popular worldwide.

The more widely used term for footbag -- hackysack -- came from Wham-O Inc., a toy company that manufactures the beanbag like gadget.

A couple weeks into spring the old-school sport "just sort of caught on," said sophomore hackysacker Dave Rupp.

Aaron Leyse/ The Shakerite

Junior Matt Corrigan and sophomores Joseph Fungsang, Brian Selden and Matt Lesueur freestyle with a hackysack in front of Shaker's large auditorium. Hackysacks – small, colorful, beanbag-like toys – provide agile amusement for students.

Although this group of boys plays vigorously, they don't take credit for the hackysack revival. Junior Joe Mallin believes it originated at University School, while others believe Shaker tennis practice served as the catalyst.

"[Hackysacking] is something anyone can do, it's a very chill activity," said Rupp, who used to hackysack in middle school.

While some dabble at the fine sport of hackysacking, other Shaker students are practically pros. Hackysacking guru sophomore Brian Selden, one of Shaker's best hackysackers, kicks around with classmates these days. But his skills are more deeply rooted -- he has been hackysacking for three and a half years.

Even the guru has no clue what has caused this hackysack revival, but look out Shaker: the sack is back.

the box OFFICE

6/11
311
Nautica
•
6/22
Steve Miller Band
Blossom
•
7/13
Van's Warped Tour
Nautica
•
7/20
Ozzfest
Blossom
•
8/11
Santana
Blossom
•
8/22
Dave Matthews Band
Blossom
•
8/31
Britney Spears
Gund Arena

Sean Ferguson

Sean Nitchmann finds his niche

• *A talented graphic artist departs with a Gristmill triumph*

By Francesca Klein
Staff Reporter

When you open your yearbook this year and notice the well-designed pages, thank senior Sean Nitchmann, who was co-editor of the Gristmill along with Katie Glick.

"Sean is very creative and really has great design in his artwork," said Glick, who has known him since they began working together on the Gristmill sophomore year. Nitchmann found out about the Gristmill in middle school from friends who said it was a fun activity.

Nitchmann will be leaving another permanent imprint on the school. For his senior project, he and fellow senior Suzanne Schwarz are painting a mural in the senior lounge. The mural features the Raider mascot running down the football field.

Nitchmann started his art career early. "I started drawing cartoons in elementary school around third grade," he said.

Currently, Nitchmann is taking graphic design and art portfolio workshop at Shaker. Outside of school he has taken a drawing class at the Cleveland Institute of Art.

In addition to art and the yearbook, Nitchmann enjoys "playing pick up sports games outside of school, chilling out and listening to music."

Nitchmann will be attending the University of Arts in Philadelphia this fall, where he will study graphic design, his favorite aspect of art. In the future he hopes to design furniture.

a&e raider of THE YEAR

"Sean will be very successful because of his self-motivation and become a designer of some sort in the near future," Hoffman said. "I respect Sean. His work is very special and will be noticed and well known as he matures as a young adult."

Tiana Conrad/ The Shakerite

Sean Nitchmann, a senior, paints the Raider mascot in the social room. Nitchmann, who is co-editor of the Gristmill, will attend The School of the Arts.

Although Nitchmann wanted to avoid summing up Shaker in a clichéd manner, he did say that the wide variety of people at Shaker has created a unique experience that shaped him into the person he is today. "Shaker is diverse, and it was a great experience being around different

Todd Levitt

Three's Plenty
Silver Company

What's better than a really good band? A really good band from our school!

The new Silver Company EP, *Three's Plenty*, comprises three well-written and catchy rock songs. The band's unique blend of instruments, including a violin, make for an original sound. And in addition to these awesome tunes, the vocals of sophomore Dan Goddard are extremely strong.

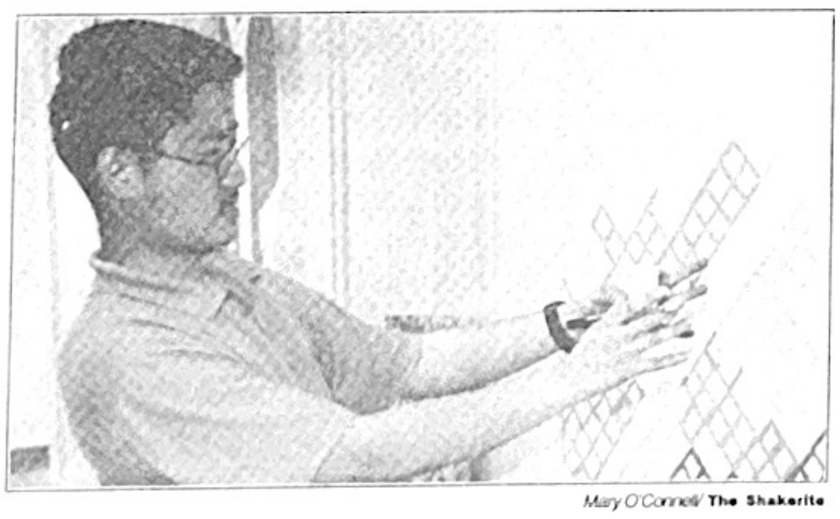
Considering that the five artists in this band are also full-time students at our school, their music is especially impressive.

Watch out Dave Matthew's Band and Matchbox 20 — here comes Shaker's own Silver Company.

♪♪♪♪

Lia Silver

Out of Four



Mary O'Connell/ The Shakerite

Yang Li maps out his mural, located outside the large auditorium balcony.

DECK THE HALLS WITH SENIOR PROJECTS

• Artists devote lenghty hours to legacies of murals and a sculpture

By Sara Reichstein
A&E Co-editor

Of the many things seniors must do before packing their bags for the future, leaving a mark on the school is high on their list. Several seniors will literally leave their marks -- by painting murals or making sculptures during senior projects.

Artist Yang Li is replacing the oldest mural in the school, which was painted 25 years ago. Li is painting a portrait of John Lennon in the style of Chuck Close. Other artists include Sean Nitchmann and Suzanne Schwarz, who will paint a mural, and Andrea Abramoff and Max Roberts, who are setting a precedent by completing a sculpture for the courtyard.

Students may work up to 200 hours, according to art department chairman Jim Hoffman, a member of the panel that judges the seniors' proposals. Seniors must paint detailed but small-scale mock ups of their designs and submit them for approval.

"I am tremendously happy with it. I have always wanted to do a mural. The process takes a lot of patience and is very tedious, but the result is rewarding. If I am to be remembered, it is this way, it is my gift to the school," said Li of his mural.

Behold these mighty Raiders

• Leaders Emily Blanton, Devan Miller exemplify attitudes worthy of Raiders of the Year

By Marianne Cronin and Eric Edelsberg
Sports co-editors

The hardest thing about writing a story on Emily Blanton is deciding which of her countless awards to leave out because there is not enough room for them all.

Where do you start when talking about a girl who plays three varsity sports in one of the most athletic high schools in northeast Ohio? What do you say when her list of accomplishments in each sport is about two pages long?

How about naming some of the many awards she has received: she is an All-American in the 4x4 relay team, honorable mention in the Greater Cleveland area for soccer, All American in lacrosse, first team (Midwest) in lacrosse, first team all league (lacrosse), and a captain for the lacrosse and soccer teams. And that is just to name a few.

"She's one of those players that you are happy she's on your team and don't have to play against her. She is an amazing athlete," said junior soccer defenseman Amy Gross.

That she is. This spring was the first time she participated in both track and lacrosse. She had to make many sacrifices, but lacrosse was always on the top of her list. The most recent sacrifice came when Blanton missed the district track meet because of the lacrosse state tournament.

"Emmo is one of the hardest working and most talented athletes around," said soccer and lacrosse goalie Erin Forquer.

"I think that I bring leadership and a hard working attitude to all of the teams I play for. I also try to guide the younger players in the right direction," said Blanton.

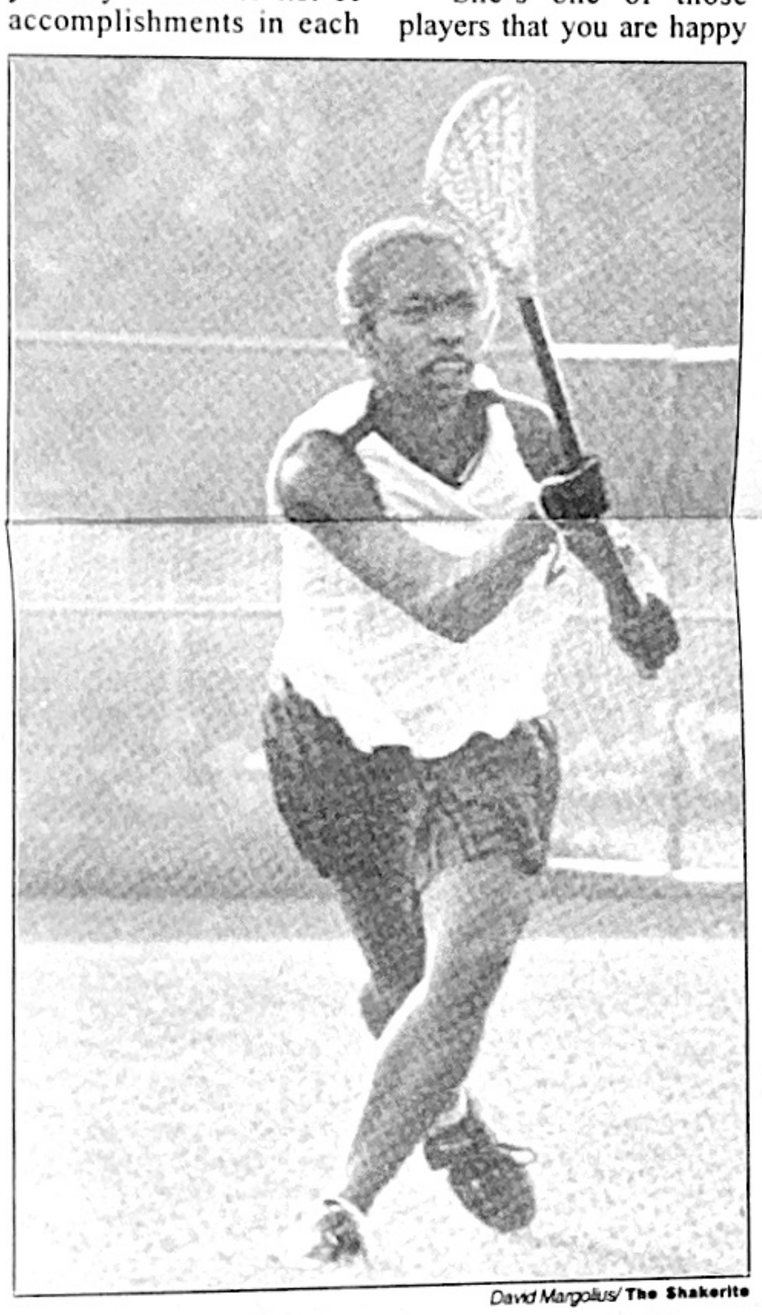
Blanton trains in the winter and throughout the year by running on the weekends and playing wall ball at Boulevard for lacrosse. The routine builds needed endurance for her daily schedule of going to track practice from 3-4 p.m. and lacrosse practice from 4-6 p.m. Most people would get tired just reading about it.

"She's a very strong runner, a team player, and always keeps a positive attitude no matter what the situation," said junior Crissy Bates, a member of the track team.

This spring Blanton led the lacrosse team with 28 defensive stops. She also had 17 goals, 7 assists and 43 ground balls. She was second on the team with 22 forced turnovers.

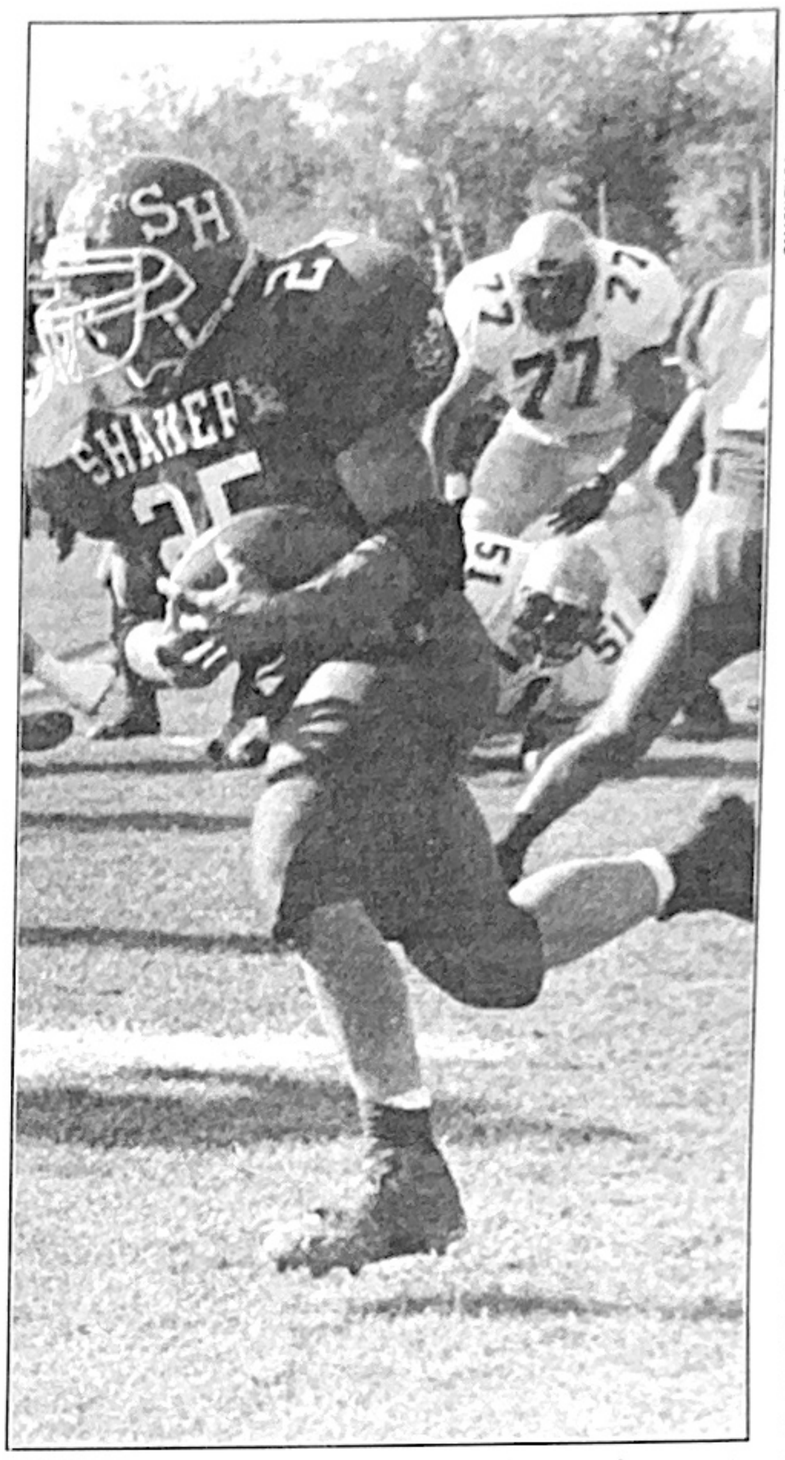
Yet, Blanton's best high school sports experience came in her junior year when the lacrosse team trailed 4-1 in second game of the Midwest tournament. The Raiders rallied and to win 5-4.

Blanton will attend Brown next year and plans to continue playing lacrosse.



David Margolius/ The Shakerite

Emily Blanton waits to recieve a pass. Blanton helped lead the Raiders to a second place finish in the state.



David Meyers The Shakerite

Amine Thompson/TheShakerite

Devan Miller and Emily Blanton both showed off their skills throughout the year to capture Raider of the Year honors. With speed and force, Miller, an All-Ohio running back, carries the ball down field. Miller is also a very strong defensive player who had 118 total tackles, 48 of them being solo tackles and 13 tackles for loss. Blanton is a three sport star and an All American in track and lacrosse. This spring Blanton led the lacrosse team with 28 defense stops. She also had 17 goals and 7 assists, giving her a total of 24 points. Being more defensive oriented though, Blanton was second on the team with 22 forced turnovers and 43 ground balls. Blanton will attend Brown University, and Miller is headed for Lackawana Junior College.

Miller's attitude wins on offense and defense

What do you get when you combine talent, loyalty, sacrifice, desire, hustle and heart? Senior football player Devan Miller.

Miller, who played both running back and outside linebacker, was named defensive player of the year and received All-LEL and All-Ohio awards for the 1999 season. He strengthened the Raider defense with 118 total tackles, 55 assists, 13 tackles for loss, 48 solo tackles and two quarterback sacks.

"Devan is an outstanding player," head coach Dave Sedmak said. "His most impressive characteristic is that he has no weaknesses."

Miller also boosted the offense with 81 carries for 456 yards as only a part-time player.

Although Miller did not appear on Rupp field until his sophomore year, he made up for lost time and the disadvantage of inexperience by training relentlessly for his remaining three years.

Aside from Bigger, Faster, Stronger workouts, countless laps around the track and thousands of sit-ups and push-ups, Miller attributes his success to more than just physical strength and endurance.

"They always say attitude is everything," Miller said. "It is, because it has helped me to mature as a player -- and a person."

In his junior year, due to the experience of the 1998 team, Miller received little playing time as a varsity player.

Instead of throwing in the towel, Miller used this as motivation and worked to better his skills. He says that loyalty, sacrifice, attitude and the support of family and coaches aided him in his athletic endeavors.

Miller's dedication has hardly gone unnoticed. Aside from the numerous awards of distinction for this past season, he became a role model of dedication and intensity for the entire Raider squad.

"Devan was the guts, strength and undying effort of our team," assistant coach Mark Hoskins said.

For the next two years, Miller will attend Lackawana (Pennsylvania) Junior College and then hopes to play football at a Division I school. Miller said that ultimately, he hopes to draw attention from scouts and be drafted by an NFL team.

While in college, Miller will continue his tenacity and love for the game by personifying the ultimate team player, as he has shown in his career with Shaker football.

As Miller himself said, "Now I can honestly say I have given my everything."

Shaker alums make the cut in NFL draft

• Class of '95 grads Gantous, Harris and Ledyard to compete for positions

By Dan George
Staff Reporter

The first conversation head coach Dave Sedmak ever had with Mike Gantous still lingers in his mind.

"I had just been hired [in 1993] and I was talking with Mike at one of our off-season football workouts," Sedmak said. "I remember him saying that he wanted to skip college and become a mechanic. I told him to just give school a shot."

Following Sedmak's advice, Gantous took a shot -- and wound up nailing a bull's-eye.

After riding out five years on a full football scholarship at University of Louisville, Gantous now has a college diploma *and* a Cleveland Browns jersey with his name stitched on the back.

One month ago, the Browns signed Gantous as a free agent. He will compete for a spot as a defensive tackle, becoming only the second former Raider football player to latch on with an NFL franchise.

"This has always been something that I dreamed of, and now it's happening," said Gantous, who visited Shaker last week wearing a Browns cap a huge smile.

Two other graduates of Gantous' 1995 class, which went 10-0 before falling to St. Ignatius in the playoffs, are vying for spots on NFL teams.

Courtney Ledyard, who starred at Michigan State, has joined the New York Jets, and Mark Harris, a cornerback who played at Kent State University, has attended several NFL combines and will try out with the Detroit Lions this summer.

"This is pretty incredible," said Sedmak, "but what I'm most proud of is that all three got degrees. That's always been the main focus of our program: to turn out good people."

Gantous goes pro

Mike Gantous revisited Shaker; he graduated in '95. He attended the University of Louisville on a full scholarship, got his college diploma, and will play for the Cleveland Browns this fall. Also in his graduating class were Courtney Ledyard and Mark Harris, who now play for the NY Jets and Detriot Lions, respectively.

Raider Wrap-Up 1999-2000

Men's Cross Country 18-9
Women's Cross Country 7-8
Golf 12-15
Men's Soccer 13-3-2
Field Hockey 10-4-1
Football 9-3
Women's Tennis 20-4
Women's Soccer 7-8-2
Volleyball 17-7
Men's Basketball 14-9
Men's Swimming 9-0
Women's Swimming 9-0
Women's Basketball 17-6
Ice Hockey 22-8-1
Wrestling 5-9
Baseball 10-11
Men's Lacrosse 4-9
Women's Lacrosse 16-1
Softball 1-10
Men's Tennis 23-1
Men's Track 4-2
Women's Track 2-4

Combined Raider Record: 249-131-6
Winning Percentage: .655

CLASS DISMISSED

•A•

Elizabeth Abram ~ University of Toledo
Andrea Abramoff ~ Barnard College
Sabiha Ahmad-Khan ~ Duke University
Sylvester Ajayi ~ Kent State University
Alia Ali ~ University of Cincinnati
Nathaniel Auerbach ~ Syracuse University

•B•

Hyo Bae ~ Ohio State University
Bianca Bailey ~ Youngstown University
Matthew Baringer ~ Ohio State University
Andrew Baron ~ University of Vermont
Tiffany Barton ~ Wittenberg University
Felicia Battle ~ Undecided
Dana Beck ~ Wesleyan University
Alia Benford ~ Cleveland State University
James Bewley ~ Ohio State University
Fredrick Biller ~ University of Toledo
Summeur Bivins ~ Undecided
Makeda Black ~ Trinity College
Cheryl Blackwell ~ Syracuse University
Carlos Blake ~ Undecided
Michael Blankenship ~ Bowling Green State University
Emily Blanton ~ Brown University
Jamaal Brandon ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Amber Bradford ~ Bowling Green State University
Kaleelah Branche ~ University of Akron
Alder Brannin ~ Grinnell College
Latisha Bridges ~ U.S. Air Force
Meredith Brizendine ~ Tulane University
Danielle Brown ~ U.S. Air Force
Stacey Brown ~ University of Toledo

•C•

Benjamin Cahen ~ Miami University
Gabrielle Caldwell ~ College of Wooster
Judith Carlson ~ Ohio University
Stephanie Chin ~ University of California, Berkeley
Kate Ciepluch ~ University of Wisconsin
Paul Cobb ~ University of Michigan
Jeremy Cohen ~ Washington University
Alexander Cole ~ Undecided
Camylle Coley ~ University of Sciences
Elizabeth Cooperman ~ Northwestern University
Gala Copez-Sanders ~ Hampton Institute University
Stephen Courtright ~ Albion College
Mackenzie Crone ~ Parsons School of Design
Meghan Crosby ~ Clark College
Melissa Currivan ~ University of Chicago
Jonathan Czuba ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Jacqueline Czyzak ~ Ohio University
Joan Czyzak ~ Ohio University

•D•

Anna Daley ~ Vanderbilt University
William Davies ~ University of Pittsburgh
Nia Davis ~ University of Cincinnati
Tara Davis ~ Northwestern University
Stephanie Decatur ~ Allegheny College
Khaleena Derricoatte ~ University of Toledo
Aaron Dibner-Dunlap ~ Northwestern University
Janice Dickson ~ Hampton Institute University
Howard Dingle ~ Lehigh University
Marc Djokic ~ Cleveland Institute of Music
Beth Dolinsky ~ Yale University
James Dorsey ~ Ohio State University
Meghan Dubyak ~ Cornell University
Jeremy Duchon ~ University of Cincinnati
James Dunn ~ Brigham Young University
Latonya Dysart ~ Undecided

•E•

Cameron Eckstein ~ Washington University
Benjamin Edelstein ~ Pennsylvania Institute of Culinary Arts
Adam Eklund ~ University of Arizona
Michael Emrich ~ Ohio State University
Nathaniel Evans ~ Syracuse University

•F•

Arielle Fain ~ University of Memphis
Jacob Feitler ~ University of California, Santa Cruz
Amber Fitch ~ Tuskegee University
Pamela Fletcher ~ George Washington University
Leslie Fontanez ~ Kent State University
James Forristell ~ University of Cincinnati
Austin Frank ~ Columbia University
Marcitta Franklin ~ University of Las Vegas
Sarah Frisof ~ Eastman School of Music
Sayaka Fujioka ~ Case Western Reserve University
Amy Fuller ~ Ohio State University
Justin Fuller ~ Earlham College
Francis Fungsang ~ Brown University

•G•

Stephanie Gabarik ~ Indiana University
David Gaddis ~ Hiram College
Jennifer Gay ~ Dudley Cosmetology University
Daniel George ~ College of Wooster
David Gilbert ~ Undecided
Lauren Gilbride ~ University of Michigan
Sarah Glauser ~ University of Michigan
London Glaze ~ Ohio University
Katie Glick ~ Washington University
Preston Goforth ~ California Institute of the Arts
Janelle Goodwin ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Montela Goodwin ~ Gannon University
Jhermel Goss ~ Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Rachel Gray ~ Cleveland Institute of Art
Jeannette Green ~ Kent State University
Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley ~ Wittenberg University
Jesse Griffiths ~ Ohio University
Sarah Gross ~ Washington University
Joanna Grossman ~ Skidmore College
Tara Grove ~ University of Pennsylvania
Daniel Guinn ~ Duke University
Justin Gurney ~ Indiana University

•H•

Jennifer Haky ~ Miami University
Scott Hamilton ~ James Madison University
Crystal Hansen ~ Miami University
Akil Hardy ~ Xavier University
Jacquelyn Harmon ~ Albany State University
Veronica Harper ~ University of Kansas
Antwaun Harris ~ Work
Dessie Harris ~ Kent State University
Kimberly Harris ~ Undecided
Kisha Harris ~ Pennsylvania Institute of Culinary Arts
Tamara Harris ~ Johnson and Wales College
Courtney Harrison ~ University of Wisconsin
Alexis Hayes ~ National Guard
Stephanie Heaney ~ Mount Holyoke College
Jonathan Heller ~ University of Massachusetts
Joanna Henry ~ Colorado State University
Randolph Hicks ~ Howard University
Jennifer Hill ~ Dartmouth College
Don Holmes ~ Undecided
Michael Hood ~ Temple University
Jeremy Hsu ~ University of Pennsylvania

•I•

Brian Immerman ~ University of Rochester

•J•

John Jackson ~ Harvard-Radcliffe College
Laura Jacqmin ~ Yale University
Karen Jenks ~ Bryn Mawr College
Tommie Jimmison ~ Ohio University
Brandon Johnson ~ Ohio State University
Erica Johnson ~ Ohio State University
Amber Jones ~ Ohio State University
Crystal Jones ~ Undecided
Jamil Jones ~ Kent State University
Lawrence Jones ~ Ohio State University

•K•

Sarah Kangas ~ University of Pennsylvania
Whitney Karfeld ~ Princeton University
Jennifer Kaufman ~ Washington University
Ygal Kaufman ~ Penn State University
Kellianne Kelly-Williams ~ Ohio State University
Lily Kirbo ~ Ohio State University
Jason Kirschenbaum ~ Ohio State University
Matthew Kittle ~ Ohio University
Alexander Kolb ~ Emory College
Megan Kortemeyer ~ Ohio University
Alexandra Kovach ~ Marymount College
Lindy Kramer ~ Brandeis University
David Kresnye ~ University of Wisconsin

•L•

Joshua Lavin ~ Syracuse University
Jaronn Lawson ~ Ohio State University
Adam Lazarus ~ Kenyon College
Nathan Levin ~ Ohio University
Allison Lewis ~ Cleveland State University
Yang Li ~ Case Western Reserve University
Ryan Livingston ~ Lehigh University
Steven Lovejoy ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Kirsten Lund ~ University of Toledo

•M•

Alicia Mackley ~ Kent State University
Lawrence Mahoney ~ University of Cincinnati
Richard Mahoney ~ Northwestern College
Nicole Majorczyk ~ Ohio State University
Jonathan Malangoni ~ Cornell University
Lauren Markt ~ Syracuse University
Leah Marshall ~ Northwestern University
John Martin ~ Columbia University
Earl Mauldin ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Djuan McCarthy ~ Tuskegee University
Danielle McCollom ~ Cleveland State University
James McFarlane ~ Cornell University
Christopher Middlebrook ~ Ohio State University
Cherie Middlebrooks ~ Florida A&M University
Willie Miller ~ University of Cincinnati
Donte' Mines ~ Work
Daniel Moody ~ Syracuse University
Adam Moore ~ Lehigh University
Andre Morrison ~ University of Cincinnati
Ayanna Mosby ~ Johnson and Wales College
Kira Muehrcke ~ Fairfield University
Jonathan Munetz ~ Carleton College
Chelsea Myles ~ Mercyhurst College

•N•

Molly Nackley ~ Ohio State University
Paul Nadeau ~ George Washington University
Benjamin Neilson ~ Eckerd College
Raychade Nellemsbey ~ North Iowa Area Community College
David Neville ~ Work
Joy Nims ~ Princeton University
Sean Nitchmann ~ University of the Arts
Anne Nuechterlein ~ Vanderbilt University

•O•

Kathryn O'Connor ~ Undecided
Samar Oden ~ College of Wooster
Craig Ozan ~ Ohio University

•P•

Christyn Paige ~ Kentucky State University
Carla Palmore ~ University of Toledo
Michael Perrin ~ Miami University
Tamika Perry ~ Carnegie Mellon University
Julia Philipson ~ Clark University
John Pietro ~ Wittenberg University
Svetlana Piskounova ~ John Carroll University
Allison Pollock ~ University of Wisconsin
Erin Pope ~ Kentucky State University
Timothy Pope ~ University of Toledo
Christine Powers ~ Maryland Institute, College of Art
Carmel Pryor ~ Ohio University
Molly Psarras ~ William Smith College

•R•

Evan Rae ~ College of Wooster
Amit Ranade ~ Stanford University
Gregory Rawson ~ Colgate University
Shamika Reese ~ John Carroll University
Melissa Reid ~ Kent State University
Tory Ribar ~ Duke University
Erin Roberson ~ Wittenberg University
Max Roberts ~ Miami University
Veronica Robinson ~ California State University, San Bernadino
Christopher Rodgers ~ University of Akron
Sarah Ronis ~ Harvard-Radcliffe College
Emily Rosenbaum ~ Indiana University
Jeffrey Rosenberg ~ Emerson College
Taurean Ross ~ Grambling State University
Richard Rund ~ Ohio State University
Stuart Rund ~ Bowling Green State University
Santoria Rush ~ Drexel University

•S•

Lisa Samols ~ Columbia University
Meryl Scher ~ Hofstra University
Gloria Schmidt ~ Bowling Green State University
Bradley Schwarz ~ University of Maryland
Suzanne Schwarz ~ University of Wisconsin
Gordon Scott ~ University of Wisconsin
Graham Sears ~ Kent State University
Rachel Sears ~ Malone College
Derek Segesdy ~ Allegheny College
Niraj Shah ~ University of Toledo
Shaila Shah ~ Ohio State University
Yun Shen ~ Ohio State University
Nathan Shepherd ~ Ricks College
Jenna Sickbert ~ Allegheny College
Julia Sifford ~ University of Toledo
Anicka Simon ~ Kent State University
Audie Simon ~ American University
Adam Singerman ~ Ohio State University
Devaushi Singham ~ Princeton University
Jonathan Slain ~ University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Lauren Smith ~ Ohio University
Rondalynn Solomon ~ Eastern Michigan University
Andrew Spencer ~ College of Wooster
Charles Spivey ~ Military
Emily Stear ~ University of Vermont
John Stephens ~ Otterbein College
Brittany Stevens ~ Undecided
Mark Stevens ~ University of Cincinnati
Brandon Stinnett ~ United States Army
Christopher Strom ~ Suffolk University
Erin Sudow ~ American University

•T•

Crystal Taylor ~ Undecided
Bradley Thomas ~ College of Wooster
David Thomas ~ Gettysburg College
Derrick Thomas ~ Kent State University
Michael Thomas ~ Ohio State University
David Thompson ~ Kent State University
Kristen Thornton ~ Clark College
Malcolm Trier ~ Allegheny College
Ravi Triveddi ~ University of Toledo
Elizabeth Turnell ~ Yale University

•V•

Aaron Viny ~ University of Michigan
Kimberlee Venable ~ Cleveland Institute of Art

•W•

Jason Waden ~ University of Cincinnati
Aubrei Watson ~ Kent State University
Damion Watson ~ Eastern Michigan University
Zachary Weil ~ American University
Yanna Weisberg ~ Carnegie Mellon University
Ericka West ~ Cuyahoga Community College
Sarah White ~ University of Michigan
Adam Wilcox ~ Kent State University
Michael Wilcox ~ Ohio State University
Marla Wiley ~ University of Toledo
Crystal Williams ~ Undecided
Heather Williams ~ Eastern Michigan University
Tiffany Williams ~ Norfolk State University
Joshua Wiznitzer ~ Brandeis University
Jenna Wolfberg ~ Cleveland State University
Aprielle Woods ~ Cleveland State University
Andrea Wright ~ Cleveland State University

•Y•

Shun-Man Yip ~ Cleveland State University
Jonathan Youngner ~ Wesleyan University
Andrew Yowler ~ Ohio State University

•Z•

Lindsay Zellmer ~ Ohio University

Congratulations class of 2000!
Allison Pollock and Lisa Samols